

## Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5094

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OREE, SP  
SUBJECT: CODEL BYRD

REF: A. STATE 160705; B. MADRID 7067

1. THERE FOLLOW THE TEXTS OF TWO PRESS STORIES WHICH HAVE APPEARED REGARDING CODEL. WE REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO DRAW ON THE CONTENTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER (REF A), PARTICULARLY THE SENTENCE REGARDING AFFIRMATION OF SUPPORT FOR SPAIN AND ITS DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS, WITH THE PRESS AS WELL AS GOS OFFICIALS. WE WOULD ALSO STILL WISH TO USE THE POINT MADE IN THE LAST SENTENCE, PARA 2 REF B THAT SENATOR BYRD'S VISIT DOES NOT RELATE TO SPAIN'S POSSIBLE MEMBERSHIP IN NATO, WHICH IS A DECISION ENTIRELY FOR SPAIN TO MAKE.

2. THE FOLLOWING STORY APPEARED ON THE FRONT PAGE OF "EL PAIS" JUNE 25 UNDER THE HEADLINE "SENATOR BYRD WILL SOUND OUT IN MADRID OUR POSITION REGARDING NATO". BEGIN TEXT: THE LEADER OF THE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY IN THE AMERICAN SENATE, ROBERT C. BYRD, WILL VISIT SPAIN NEXT WEEKEND AND WILL HOLD CONVERSATIONS WITH PRIME MINISTER ADOLFO SUAREZ AND WITH DEFENSE MINISTER LT. GEN. GUTIERREZ MELLADO. THE TRIP TO OUR COUNTRY OF SENATOR BYRD, ONE OF

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THE MOST INFLUENTIAL LEGISLATORS IN THE U.S. CONGRESS, COMES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A TOUR OF CAPITALS OF NATO MEMBER COUNTRIES. SENATOR BYRD, WHO REPRESENTS WEST VIRGINIA IN THE CONGRESS, IS THE BEARER OF A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT. THE MESSAGE EXPRESSES THE IMPORTANCE "AND THE VALUE WHICH THE UNITED STATES GIVES TO ITS DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH

SPAIN" AND ADDS THAT THE SPANISH WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE MILITARY BASES TO AMERICAN FORCES "CONTRIBUTES GREATLY TO THE SECURITY OF SPAIN AS WELL AS OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF THE WHOLE WORLD (SIC). END TEXT.

3. THE FOLLOWING STORY APPEARED IN MADRID'S "HOJA DEL LUNES" JUNE 26 WITH A HEADLINE "CARTER WILL NOT VISIT SPAIN IN JULY" AND THE SUB-HEAD "HE WILL SEND SENATOR BYRD". BEGIN TEXT: THE INTEREST AND THE SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE SPANISH DEMOCRATIC PROCESS WILL BE MADE MANIFEST AGAIN THIS WEEK WITH THE ARRIVAL IN MADRID OF A PERSONAL EMISSARY OF PRESIDENT CARTER. NEXT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JULY 1 AND 2, THE LEADER OF THE DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY IN THE AMERICAN SENATE, ROBERT BYRD, WILL VISIT THE CAPITAL OF SPAIN ON AN OFFICIAL MISSION TO HOLD CONVERSATIONS, IN PRINCIPLE, WITH PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ AND DEFENSE VICE MINISTER (SIC) LT. GEN. MANUEL GUTIERREZ MELLADO. SUB-HEAD: BRINGS A PERSONAL MESSAGE. SENATOR BYRD IS THE BEARER OF A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER, WHICH WAS MADE PUBLIC LAST WEEKEND IN WASHINGTON, AND IN WHICH HE EXPRESSED TO SPANISH AUTHORITIES "SUPPORT FOR SPAIN AND FOR THE ADMIRABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS". CARTER HIMSELF, IN HIS MESSAGE TO BYRD FOR THIS MISSION, ASKS THAT IN HIS VISITS TO BRUSSELS, BONN, AND LONDON, HE REITERATE TO THE NATO ALLIES THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT IN WASHINGTON GIVES TO THE PLANS DISCUSSED IN THE RECENT SUMMIT FOR THE DEFENSIVE MILITARY ORGANIZATION. ALTHOUGH SPAIN IS NOT IN NATO, CARTER, IN HIS MESSAGE TO SENATOR BYRD, ASKS HIM TO TRANSMIT TO THE GOVERNMENT IN MADRID "THE VALUE WHICH THE UNITED STATES SIVES TO ITS DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH SPAIN". AT THE SAME TIME, PRESIDENT AFFIRMS THAT THE SPANISH WILLINGNESS "TO PROVIDE MILITARY INSTALLATIONS FOR AMERICAN TROOPS CONTRIBUTES GREATLY TO THE SECURITY OF SPAIN AND OF THE UNITED STATES AS WELL AS OF THE WHOLE WEST". IN DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES IN THE CAPITAL, THE TRIP OF BYRD TO MADRID, BY CHARGE OF THE PRESIDENT, HAS BEEN INTERPRETED AS A GESTURE BY PRESIDENT CARTER TO COMPENSATE FOR THE IMPOSIBILITY OF HIS PERSONALLY VISITING THE COUNTRY, AS HAD BEEN FORESEEN IN PRINCIPLE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS TRIP TO BONN IN THE MIDDLE OF JULY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT OF THE GREAT POWERS. SUB-HEAD: A NEW PRESSURE ON SPAIN. OTHERWISE, THE INSISTENCE ON THE MILITARY ASPECT OF RELATIONS IS INTERPRETED AS A NEW FORM OF PRESSURE ON SPAIN TO DECIDE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON ITS FUTURE INTEGRATION INTO NATO, DESPITE THE FACT THAT OFFICIALLY THE POSIION CONTINUES TO BE THAT THE UNITED DD

STATES DOES NOT WISH TO INTERFERE IN A DECISION WHICH  
BELONGS EXCLUSIVELY TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE.  
END TEXT. EATON

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